

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Material to be inserted is in underline, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double brackets [[]]. Any cancellations are without prejudice.

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1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A small watercraft comprising:
an engine disposed such that an axial direction of a crankshaft thereof
substantially corresponds with a front-rear direction of the watercraft, for propelling
the engine being configured to propel a body of the watercraft;

an oil tank provided below the engine such that a longitudinal direction of the
oil tank substantially corresponds with the front-rear direction of the body, the oil
tank being configured to reserve oil for lubricating the engine;

an oil separator configured to separate the oil from a blow-by gas of the engine;
and

an oil return passage configured to return the separated oil to the oil tank through
an oil pipe[[,]]; wherein

~~the oil return passage is configured to open in the oil tank in a direction~~
~~substantially perpendicular to a front-rear direction of the watercraft.~~

wherein one end of the oil pipe is connected to the separator and an opposite end thereof is connected to a return port provided on a rear wall of the oil tank; and

wherein the return port has a rear end connected to the oil pipe and is provided with a first hole extending forward in the front-rear direction of the watercraft and substantially horizontally from the rear end, and a second hole extending from the first hole in a direction to form substantially a right angle with respect to the first hole and is configured to have an opening which opens in a direction to form substantially a right angle with respect to the longitudinal direction of the oil tank within the oil tank.

8. (Canceled)

9. (New) The small watercraft according to claim 7, wherein a baffle member is provided in the vicinity of the second hole within the oil tank to extend substantially in parallel with the second hole and to cover a region in front of the opening of the second hole from a forward side of the opening, relative to the front-rear direction of the watercraft.

10. (New) The small watercraft according to claim 7, wherein the second hole is configured to extend substantially vertically from the first hole and to open upwardly.

11. (New) The small watercraft according to claim 10, wherein the baffle member is provided to extend from a bottom wall of the oil tank beyond the opening of the second hole.

12. (New) A small watercraft comprising:
an engine configured to propel a body of the watercraft;
an oil tank configured to reserve oil for lubricating the engine;
an oil separator configured to separate the oil from a blow-by gas of the engine;
and
an oil return passage configured to return the separated oil to the oil tank through an oil pipe;
wherein one end of the oil pipe is connected to the separator and an opposite end thereof is connected to a return port provided on a rear wall of the oil tank; and
wherein the return port is configured to guide oil through a wall of the oil tank in a first direction, and release oil into the tank in a second direction that is different from the first direction.

13. (New) The small watercraft of Claim 12, wherein the return port includes an upstream end that is connected to the oil pipe and configured to guide oil into the tank in a first direction, a bend formed within the oil tank and downstream of the upstream end that is configured to change a flow direction of the oil flowing into the oil tank, and a

downstream end formed downstream of the bend, which is configured to release the oil into the oil tank in a second direction that is different from the first direction.

14. (New) The small watercraft of Claim 13, wherein the first and second directions are oriented at substantially a right angle relative to each other.

15. (New) The small water craft of Claim 12, further comprising:
a baffle member positioned within the oil tank adjacent a downstream end of the return port.

16. (New) The small water craft of Claim 15, wherein the baffle member is formed in a location such that the downstream end of the return port is positioned intermediate the baffle member and the upstream end of the return port.

17. (New) The small water craft of Claim 16, wherein the baffle member is extended along an axial direction of the downstream end of the return port.

18. (New) The small water craft of Claim 17, wherein the baffle member includes a surface that is substantially orthogonal to the first direction of oil flow.